

Reluctance by banks to provide education loans

*119. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether banks are reluctant to provide education loans;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken to ensure compliance of providing educational loans by all banks including private banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Public sector and private sector banks are providing education loans.

(c) Indian Banks' Association has circulated the Model Education Loan Scheme 2004 to all Scheduled Commercial Banks including private sector banks for implementation. Education loans up to Rs. 7.5 lakh for study in India and Rs.15 lakh for study abroad are covered under priority sector lending. Government closely monitors the progress of disbursement of such loans and prompt redressal is undertaken in case of denial to any deserving student. Bank Chairman & Managing Directors have also been advised to ensure that there is no tardiness in sanctioning loans to needy and meritorious students. Further, specific complaints relating to non-sanctioning of education loan or non-compliance of guidelines, if any, are enquired into and the Reserve Bank of India takes remedial measures.

Attraction of more tourists for Taj

*120. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of tourists visit Taj every year;
- (b) whether Government are aware that the city near Taj is one of the dirtiest places;
- (c) whether Government have ever emphasized the need to spruce up the city to local administration so as to attract more tourists there; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Several site visits and series of discussions have been held recently. Based on this a comprehensive project for "Agra Revitalization and visitor Management for Taj Mahal" vicinity has been prepared with a project cost of Rs. 39.34 crore. Ministry of Tourism has already sanctioned Rs. 767.00 lakh for infrastructure improvement from East Gate Entry to Taj Mahal and Rs. 758.00 lakh from West Gate Entry to Taj Mahal. The Integrated project will be completed within a period of 36 months. The components of the projects include covering of drains, development of rose garden, upgrading of roads etc.

A detailed break up of the sanctioned projects is given in Statement-I. (See below). In addition, the other projects sanctioned for Agra and surrounding areas are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Integrated development of Agra—Revitalisation and visitor management for Taj Mahal vicinity in the State of Uttar Pradesh as a special destination

		(Rs. in lakhs)
Sl.No	Items	Amount
A	East Gate Entry to Taj Mahal	
1.	Road Improvement from JP Crossing to Shilpgram:—WBM road, red rubbed sand stone paving, precast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, boundary wall.	113.00
2.	Road Improvement from Shilpgram to Taj Mahal East Gate:—WBM road, red rubbed sand stone paving, precast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, railing, Electric poles of CI with fixtures.	85.00
3.	Revitalisation of Shilpgram including new shopping facilities and other improvement measures:—WBM road, red rubbed sand stone paving, precast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, landscaping leftover, building (new), building (renovation), Electric poles of CI with fixtures,	276.00

1	2	3
	boundary wall, repair estimates submitted UP tourism department, fir protection works.	
4	Trekking route to Taj Mahal—Nature Park Improvement:—WBM road, red rubbed sand stone paving, precast PCC KERB stone, improving old trek route, landscaping, building (new), building (upgrade), OAT, upgradation of play area, machan, water body, fountain, electric poles of CI with fixtures.	94.00
5.	Improvement of Visitor Approach at East Gate Entry to Taj Mahal:—WBM road, repair of WBM roads, CC road M20, red rubbed sand stone paving, precast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, railing, building (new), electric poles of CI with fixtures, demolition/shifting work.	51.00
6.	Covering of Nalah near Eastern Gate and landscaping (200 metres of either sides):—Masonry work, PCC work 1.4:8, RCC slab, red sand stone over RCC, landscaping, Culvert-fountain, pier, slab, railing.	102.00
7.	Upgradation of facilities at Taj Khema—WBM road, CC road 20, red rubbed sand stone paving, precast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, external landscaping, building (new), building (renovation), Bamboo restanrant with open and bamboo umbrella, electric poles of CI with fixtures, swiss cottages.	46.00
	TOTAL	767.00
B West Gate Entry to Taj Mahal		
1.	Redesigning parking node at Amrood Ka Tila including construction of new shopping centre:—WBM road, CC road M-20, Red Rubbed Sand Stone paving, recast PCC KERB stone, land scaping, building (new), shops, security, toilets, electric poles of CI with fixtures, signage.	201.00

1	2	3
2.	Approach to Taj Mahal through proposed Rose Garden:—WBM road, Red rubbed sand stone paving, Recast PCC KERB stone, landscaping including Rose Garden, railing, building (new), electric poles of CI with fixtures, sump, tube well.	52.00
3.	Upgradation of the Green Bus corridor/road to Taj Mahal:—WBM road, CC road M-20, Rubbed Red Sand Stone paving, recast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, railing, electric poles of CI with fixtures, signage.	21.00
4.	Upgradation of visitor approach to West Gate entry to Taj Mahal:—WBM road, CC road M-20, Rubbed Red Sand Stone paving, recast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, building (new), building (renovation), electric poles of CI with fixtures, fountain.	44.00
5.	Improvement of Shahjahan Park—An Archaeological Park:—WBM road, CC road M-20, Red Rubbed Sand Stone paving, recast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, railing, building (new), electric poles of CI with fixtures, children play area, sump, tube well, de-silting of lakes, improving old irrigation system/facilities.	153.00
6.	Upgradation of road from Purani Mandi to Rani Lakshmi Bai Chowk:—WBM road, Red Rubbed Sand Stone paving, recast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, railing, electric poles of CI with fixtures.	41.00
7.	Proposal for River Front Road improvement:—WBM road, Red Rubbed Sand Stone paving, recast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, railing, electric poles of CI with fixtures	35.00
8.	Upgradation of road from Lakshmi Bal Chowk to Parking node at Amrood Ka Tila:—WBM road, Rubbed Red Sand Stone paving, recast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, railing, electric poles of CI with fixtures.	35.00
C	Signage	20.00

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RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3
D	Upgradation of road connectivity of railway station/ airport to JP crossing:—WBM road, CC road M-20, Rubbed Red Sand Stone paving, recast PCC KERB stone, landscaping, boundary wall, electric poles of CI with fixtures.	156.00
	TOTAL:	758.00

Statement-II*Year-wise details of Projects sanctioned for Agra*

		(Rs. in lakh)
SI.	Name of the Project No.	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
1992-93		
1.	Flood lighting of Fatehpur Sikri	15.15
1993-94		
1.	Improvement of Ghats at Bateshwar	20.00
1995-96		
1.	Sound & Light Show at Agra Fort	20.00
1996-97		
1.	Refurbishment of Akbar's Tomb	35.32
1997-98		
1.	Visitor Centre, Agra	20.92
1998-99		
1.	Refurbishment of Aram Bagh, Agra	11.34
2.	Flood lighting of Bateshwar Temple in Agra Distt.	05.00

1	2	3
1999-2000		
1. Toilets at Taj Mahal, Agra (5 Star level)		21.00
2. Floodlighting of Sikandara (Distt. Agra)		04.27
3. Floodlighting of Etmad-Ud-Dulla (Distt. Agra)		05.29
2000-01		
1. Renovation of Toilets at Tajganj, Agra		07.54
2. Renovation of Community toilets at Fatehpur Sikri (Main Gate) and Panch Mahal (Inside) Fatehpur Sikri		16.90
3. Integrated Development of Bateshwar (Distt. Agra)		50.00
2003-04		
1. Construction of Interpretation Centre/Shopping Centre and related development works and services at Fatehpur Sikri (CPWD)		495.80
2005-06		
1. Investors' Meet at Agra in February, 2006.		15.00
2006-07		
1. Integrated Development of Agra-Revitalization and Visitor Management for Taj Mahal Vicinity-East Gate Entry to Taj Mahal		767.00
2. Integrated Development of Agra West Gate Entry		758.00

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Airport at Navi Mumbai

712. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on the proposed airport in Navi Mumbai has been started;